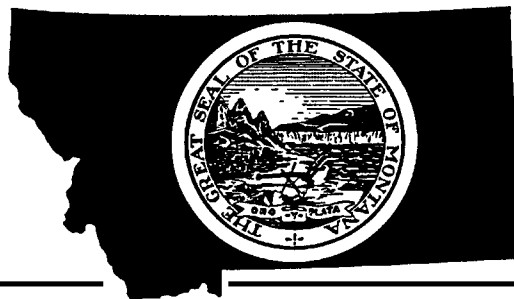


# NEWSLETTER

## Montana State Board of Nursing



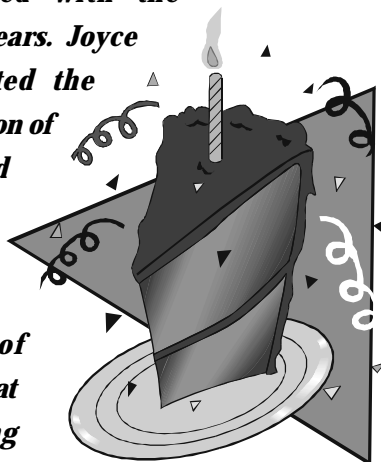
VOLUME 14 NUMBER 2

Helena, Montana

FALL 2003

### Board of Nursing Celebrates 90 Years of Nursing Regulation in Montana

**O**n July 23, 2003, the Board of Nursing celebrated 90 years of nursing regulation with a ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda. Governor Martz was present to commend the Board for their dedication to the public's protection. Senator Carolyn Squires and Representative Eve Franklin spoke about their involvement in the legislative process as both nurses and elected officials. Mary Munger, RN, past President of Montana Nurses Association and lobbyist explained the strong relationship that the Board has maintained with the Association over the years. Joyce Jacobsen, RN delighted the audience with a description of early nurses' training and working conditions. Amber Brensdaal, LPN and recent graduate from Helena College of Technology, explained what drew her to the nursing



*profession, and Mike Barts, CRNA, described the challenges that motivate him to continue in nursing as well as health care advocacy. The celebration ended with a reception for the public to meet the Board members. Board member Gretchen McNeely presented a short history of the Montana Board of Nursing. It is printed in this newsletter for the benefit of those who could not attend, and as a memento for all Montana nurses.*

### Board Corner

*By Gretchen McNeely RN DNSc*

#### ***A Short History of the Montana State Board of Nursing (1913-2003)***

**A** rumor circulated during the fall of 1912 that a Great Falls physician planned to have a bill introduced in January 1913 which would regulate nursing by the creation of a State Board to be composed solely of physicians. This information led to the formation on October 31, 1912 of what is today the Montana Nurses' Association. Following the meeting and election of officers, the newly



*elected President, Miss C. Anna Laurie, appointed the first Legislative Committee, all charter members of the Montana State Graduate Nurses' Association. They were: Lucy Ann Marshall, Chair, and Clara E. Brunelle of Missoula; Lydia R. Van Luvanee and Mary C. Platt of Helena; Helena E. Curtis and Nettie Lester Bennett of Butte; and Ruby M. Bohart of Bozeman.*

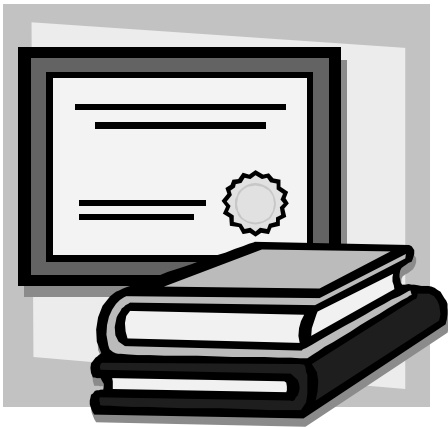
*House Bill (HB) 124 was drawn up by this first Legislative Committee and introduced by Representative H.M. Stewart, (D) Gallatin County (Bozeman), on Wednesday, January 22, 1913. It was "An Act establishing a State Board of Examiners and Registration for Nurses, providing for the examination and registration of persons who engage in the profession of nursing the sick, fixing the requirements for registration by the State Board, and providing penalties for the violation of this Act." Substitute House Bill (Sub HB) 124 was introduced in its place by the Committee on Sanitary Affairs with a similar title: "An Act to establish a Board of Examiners for Nurses; providing*

*that the Governor may issue a license or certificate of registration to persons engaged in the profession of nursing the sick, and fixing penalties for any violations of this Act." It passed in the House by a vote of 62-1, with*

*23 abstentions, on Valentine's Day. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, it was signed by the Speaker of the House and sent to the Governor's office. Governor Samuel V. Stewart (D) signed it on March 3, 1913 and it became Chapter 50 in the Session Laws of the 13<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. A copy of the entire text was published in the June 1913 issue of the American Journal of Nursing.*

*Governor Stewart appointed the first Montana State Board of Examiners for Nurses, an all nurse board, on May 5, 1913. The five members of that first Board were: Lucy Ann Marshall, Missoula (3 year term); Mary Margaret Hughes, Helena (2 year term); Ruby M. Bohart, Bozeman*

*(3 year term); Florence Ames, Billings (2 year term); and C. Anna Laurie, Butte (1 year term). Miss Laurie resigned when she married Mr. J. Spencer Watkins and Nettie Lester Bennett of Butte was appointed to fill her 1 year unexpired term. Though their terms did not begin until June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Board met on May 10, 1913 to elect officers and begin preliminary work on the rules that would govern the Board and the applicants for registration. Lucy Ann Marshall was elected President and State Inspector of Training Schools and Mary Margaret Hughes was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Board. The members met again on May 28, 1913 to adopt bylaws and to set minimum standards for governing the training schools as well as set admissions criteria for students. By the January 1914 Board meeting, nine schools had been inspected; four received initial approval and the other five were required to raise their standards and improve their education programs. The first four schools to be approved were those*



## BOARD MEMBERS

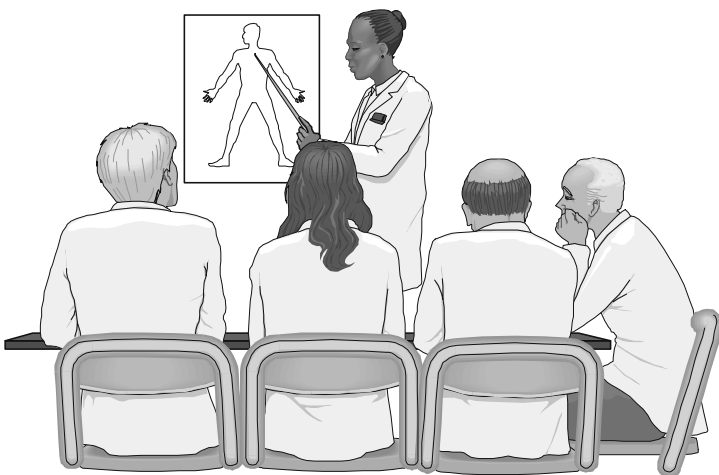
*Kim Powell, APRN, Missoula, President,  
Vickie Badgely, LPN, Stevensville, Secretary  
Lorena Erickson, Public Member, Corvallis  
Anna Lythgoe, RN, Clancy  
Gretchen McNeely, RN, Bozeman  
Karen Pollington, RN, Havre  
Steven Rice, Public Member, Miles City  
Jeanine Thomas, LPN, Ronan  
Roberta Threet, LPN, Clancy*

## BOARD STAFF

*Lori Ballinger, Department Counsel  
Joan Bowers, Compliance Specialist  
Ron Burns, Investigator  
Jill Caldwell, RN MSN, Office Manager  
Elizabeth Carney, Licensing Technician  
Cristina Medina, Licensing Technician  
Lorraine Schneider, Board Counsel*

*associated with the following hospitals: Columbus and Montana Deaconess in Great Falls (now merged and known as Benefis), and Murray and St. James in Butte.*

*The first trained nurses to be registered in the state were done so without an examination through an application process. Lucy Ann Marshall, a graduate of Butler Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island, was issued the first certificate as a registered nurse in the State of Montana. She was joined by 671 trained nurses who received registration certificates without examination as they had all graduated from formal nurse training programs. Nurses without formal training who had been working in Montana for hire, were required to pass the written and oral examinations to obtain a certificate of registration. Thirteen candidates sat for Montana's first licensing examination for nurses at the Court House in Butte on July 21, 1913. Containing both practical and written portions, it was constructed, administered, scored and graded by the Board members, a pattern that continued until 1945 when the State Board Test Pool Examination of the National League of Nursing Education was adopted. The practical examination, given in the morning, consisted of bed making, making poultices, plasters and fomentations, the use of the thermometer, and the taking of vital signs. The first written examination, given in the afternoon, later appeared in the May 1914 issue of the American Journal of Nursing. The exam consisted of nine subject areas: Nursing Ethics (8 questions), Home Sanitation & Nursing (10 questions), Anatomy (10 questions), Physiology (10 questions), Gynecology (10 questions), Surgical Nursing (10 questions), Materia Medica (10 questions), Obstetrical Nursing (7 questions), and Diseases of Children (7 questions).*



*The Board's authority has been challenged many times and the first of these involved the denial of a license due to a failing grade on the written portion of the examination given in January 1914. The candidate, a correspondence school graduate, earned 47 2/3%; a passing grade required 70%. An outside committee of three trained nurses were asked to independently score the exam as a part of the grievance process and they arrived at a score of 43%. The failing grade was upheld, but the candidate then took her case to the district court in Yellowstone County which ruled in favor of the candidate. The Board then appealed to the Montana Supreme Court which overturned the decision of the district court and upheld the Board's decision.*

*It was not until 1920 that a paid, non-board member nurse was hired by the Board as an Executive Secretary. This position was first provided for in the changes to the Nurse Practice Act in 1919. Frances E. Friedericks, a formally trained and registered nurse from Michigan, was the first to hold this position from 1920-1930. Only six other nurses have held that position during the 90 year history of the Board: Edith Lucille Brown (1930-1941), Anna Totman Beckwith (1941-1968), Sara Gertrude "Trudie" (Rugland) Malone (1968-1980), Phyllis M. McDonald (1980-1990), Dianne Wickham (1990-1999), and Barbara K. Swehla (2000-2003). On July 1, 1953, following HB 74, Practical Nurses were licensed in the State of Montana. It was permissive rather than mandated licensure*

until 1967 when a license was required for practice. The Nurse Practice Act now required a Board of Nursing with eight members: 5 registered nurses and 3 practical nurses. In addition, schools of practical nursing were required to be approved by the Board of Nursing. The first three practical nurses to be appointed by Governor J. Hugo Arenson to the Board were: Louise Salter, Hamilton; Myrtle McMillan, Havre; and Addis Owens, Bridger. The only practical nursing school in the State at that time was at Northern Montana Community College in Havre (now known as MSU-Northern). It was the first practical nursing school to be approved by the Board of Nursing in Montana. The first licensing examination for practical nurses was given on October 9, 1953 in Billings, Great Falls, and Helena. By 1955, applicants needed to be graduates of approved nursing programs to take the exam and be licensed.

In the 1980s, Public Members were added to the composition of the board which currently consists of 9 members: 4 registered nurses, 3 practical nurses and 2 public members. Many changes have been made to the Nurse Practice Act since 1913 and in the mid 1990s, endorsement to the RN license for advanced practice and prescriptive authority became a reality to keep up with the changing discipline of nursing. There are four categories of advanced practice nurses in Montana: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, and Clinical Nurse Specialists.

## Board Meeting Dates

**October 21, 22, 23, 2003**  
**January 20, 21, 22, 2004**  
**April 20, 21, 22, 2004**  
**July 20, 21, 22, 2004 (Miles City)**  
**October 19, 20, 21, 2004**

Most Board of Nursing meetings are held in the fourth floor conference room of the South Park Building, 301 South Park Avenue in Helena. The majority of the Board and Committee meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted on the Board web site, <http://discoveringmontana.com/dli/nur>. If you need a hard copy agenda, please call the Board office.

Today we celebrate 90 years of nursing legislation and regulation in the State of Montana. The goal of our efforts is to protect the public - that is what the Governor has appointed us to do and we each make an effort to meet our obligation in a responsible and professional manner.☺

## Governor Martz Appoints Two New Board Members

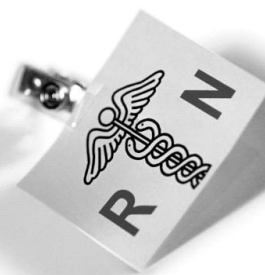
**G**overnor Judy Martz appointed two new members, Anna Lythgoe RN and Roberta Threet, LPN, to the Board of Nursing in August.

Anna Lythgoe, RN, MSN, is from Clancy. Ms. Lythgoe has a broad base of nursing experience in several different states. Her graduate degree is in nursing administration, and she is currently in her third year of a doctoral program in nursing research. Since 1982, she has worked in Program Development at the Fort Harrison Veterans Administration Hospital.

Roberta Threet LPN, is also from Clancy, and reports that her entire family is involved in the medical profession. Ms. Threet has worked as a staff nurse in Women's Health Care for the last ten years. In addition to her nursing license, she has been licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician for most of her adult life.

Board members serve four-year terms, and may be reappointed for a total of two terms. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Nursing, submit a resume and letter of interest to the Governor's office, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620-0801.

The Board and Board staff welcome Ms. Lythgoe and Ms. Threet, and we look forward to working with them.☺



# Recent Board Actions



**April 2003**

- ✍ ***Determined that a licensed practical nurse may perform cauterization in the office of a licensed independent practitioner (LIP) with:***
  - 1. Direct on site supervision by the LIP.***
  - 2. Appropriate and continuous training.***
  - 3. Documented competency.***
- ✍ ***Decided to pursue feasibility of Interstate Compact participation.***
- ✍ ***Noticed a rule change effective 12/31/2004, that all licensed certified nurse midwives shall be enrolled in either the certification maintenance program or the continuing competency assessment program through the American College of Nurse Midwives.***
- ✍ ***Noticed an increase in fees as follows:***
  - ~Examination application fee will be increased to \$100.***
  - ~Endorsement application fee will be increase to \$200.***
  - ~License renewal fees for active military personnel will be waived.***
- ✍ ***Voted to notice new fees for temporary permits.***
  - ~RN and LPN temporary permits will be \$25.***
  - ~APRN temporary permits will be \$35.***
- ✍ ***Reelected Kim Powell, APRN, President of the Board.***

**July 2003**

- ✍ ***Approved annual school reports for all Montana schools of nursing***
- ✍ ***Noticed a rule change regarding the nurse's role in cosmetic procedures***
- ✍ ***Began work on medication aide rules for assisted living facilities.***
- ✍ ***Determined that it is within the scope of practice for a flight nurse to perform pericardiocentesis.***

- ✍ ***Determined that instructing unlicensed persons to give emergency Glucagon is not delegation but rather instruction.***
- ✍ ***Determined that the administration of Zolodex is within the scope of practice of RNs and LPNs.***

***For specific information about any of the Board actions or for a copy of the meeting minutes, please contact the Board office or check the Board web site.***

## Delegation or Instruction

***At the July 2003 Board meeting, the Practice and Credentials Committee reviewed concerns regarding the new law that allows unlicensed individuals to give IM Glucagon in a school setting. The nurses were concerned that teaching the injection procedure would constitute delegation and thus, make them accountable and liable for any untoward outcome of the procedure.***

***House Bill 573, introduced by Representative John Parker was "An act allowing a parent or guardian of a diabetic student to designate a school district employee to administer Glucagon to the student in an emergency situation; and limiting the liability of the school employee and a school district." You may access the entire bill text at <http://leg.state.mt.us>.***

***The bill recognizes that a nurse may be the most appropriate person to teach the procedure. Teaching is not delegation, however. The nurse is not required to have a nurse-patient relationship with the student, and the nurse is not required to provide periodic supervision of the individual learning the task. The nurse does not retain accountability for the procedure, or the learner's maintenance of competency. As always, the nurse would be prudent to document what she taught and when she taught the procedure. If you have any questions, please call the Board office.***

## Stipulations and Final Orders

<i>Name</i>	<i>License #</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Action</i>
<b>Timothy Heinzman</b>	<b>RN28558</b>	<b>Missoula, MT</b>	<b>Probation 1 yr.</b>
<b>Judith Ann Miller</b>	<b>RN29091</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Probation NAP 1 yr.</b>
<b>Lori Orcutt</b>	<b>RN22923</b>	<b>Bridger, MT</b>	<b>Reinstated Probation NAP 3 yrs</b>
<b>Kathleen Wegner</b>	<b>RN17088</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Voluntary Surrender of License</b>
<b>Judy Wilkins</b>	<b>RN20753</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Probation 3 yrs. with CEUs</b>
<b>Teresa Knoll</b>	<b>LPN5543</b>	<b>Glendive, MT</b>	<b>Probation NAP 3 yrs.</b>
<b>Dana Nixdorf</b>	<b>RN28492</b>	<b>Glasgow, MT</b>	<b>Stipulation for a Fine</b>
<b>Larry Howard</b>	<b>LPN27832</b>	<b>Whitefish, MT</b>	<b>Suspended</b>
<b>Patricia Fagan</b>	<b>LPN4361</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Probation NAP 3 yrs.</b>
<b>Katherine Blackthunder</b>	<b>RN27647</b>	<b>Sheridan, WY</b>	<b>Probation 3 yrs. with CEUs</b>
<b>Bernadine Eagle</b>	<b>RN27032</b>	<b>Clinton, MT</b>	<b>Suspended</b>
<b>Melvina Snow</b>	<b>RN11334</b>	<b>Harlem, MT</b>	<b>Suspended</b>
<b>Tammy Olk</b>	<b>RN16440</b>	<b>Butte, MT</b>	<b>Probation 1 yr. with CEUs</b>
<b>Olga Lunde</b>	<b>LPN6019</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Probation 1 yr. with CEUs</b>
<b>Christine Colleran</b>	<b>LPN2929</b>	<b>Billings, MT</b>	<b>Probation 3 yrs. with CEUs</b>
<b>Faith DeWaay</b>	<b>RN22746</b>	<b>Butte, MT</b>	<b>Probation 3 yrs. with CEUs</b>
<b>Denise Morton</b>	<b>RN19226</b>	<b>Billings MT</b>	<b>Probation 1 year with CEUs</b>
<b>Cathleen Rapp</b>	<b>LPN7857</b>	<b>Billings MT</b>	<b>Reinstated Probation NAP-3 yrs.</b>
<b>Carl Vansell</b>	<b>RN28255</b>	<b>Salem, OR</b>	<b>Probation 1 yr.</b>

*\*Names and license numbers are published as a means of protecting the public safety, health, and welfare. Only Final Orders, which are public information, are published in this newsletter. Pending action against any licensee is not published. Please advise the Board office if any of the above nurses is working outside his/her licensure capacity.*

*\*\*Those licensees with Nurses Assistance Program (NAP) listed have been placed on NAP through the formal Board process. Licensee names and information on the Voluntary Track of NAP are confidential, and this information is not available to the public.*

## APRN Continuing Education Needs

**K**ee in mind that although licenses will not be renewed this year, you may want to be working on the continuing education credits that you will need for renewal next year. APRNs will need 40 contact hours to renew the APRN license. The course work should pertain to the APRN's certification, and if the APRN practices in a subspecialty, the majority of the course work should pertain to the subspecialty.

If you hold prescriptive authority, you will need an additional 10 contact hours in pharmacology or pharmacology management. A minimum of four of those

ten hours must be in a face-to-face interaction. The majority of the contact hours must concern the study of pharmaceutical medications and not herbal or complementary therapies.



## License Look-up

Verifying a licensee's status and credentials is available on-line. While you may obtain this information by calling the Board office, the on-line function may be quicker, and it is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The site is <http://app.discoveringmontana.com/bsdinq/index.html>.

# MSU Students Visit Medication Aide Subcommittee Meeting

**T**he senior class of the Montana State University, Great Falls Campus, attended the September 9, 2003, Medication Aide Rules Subcommittee with their instructor, Ms. Lynn O'Malley, RN. The students offered comments and participated in the healthy debate on rules for the new category of licensees. "Their comments were articulate and well thought out," stated Vickie Badgley, LPN, Committee Chairperson. The Students felt their experience was positive, and gave them an insight into nursing regulation. The Board thanks the students for their

*participation and welcomes all students (and all members of the public) at all open meetings.*

# Delegation Subcommittee to Study IV Starts

**T**he Practice and Credentials Committee of the Board has been fielding questions regarding nursing tasks, nursing functions and areas of delegation over the past several meetings. Most recently, the issue of delegating IV starts to unlicensed personnel in the emergency room was discussed. Because of the complexity of the issue, the Practice Committee believed it was best discussed in a

## Has Your Address Changed? Have You Changed Jobs?

Please be sure your address and employer(s) are current with the Montana Board of Nursing. The Board depends on accurate and timely information from licensees to ensure that important communications, including your license renewal forms, reach you!

### Address Change

Full Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
License Number: \_\_\_\_\_ RN or LPN  
Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Street                    City                    State                    Zip  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    Home                    Work

### Employer Change

Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Methods you may use to provide the above information:



FAX: 406-841-2343  
E-Mail: [dlibsdnur@state.mt.us](mailto:dlibsdnur@state.mt.us)  
U.S. Mail: PO BOX 200513  
Helena MT 59620-0513  
Telephone: 406-841-2340

*Delegation Subcommittee. The Subcommittee will be reviewing current rules for delegation, and making recommendations regarding tasks, functions and sites for nursing delegation. Watch the Board's web site for meeting notices, or contact the Board office to receive agendas for all Board meetings.*

## Board Says Good-Bye to Three Nursing Leaders

**B**arbara Swehla resigned from her position as Executive Director of the Board in June. Ms Swehla served as E.D. from 2000-2003. She left the position to pursue another nursing administration post in Helena.

Sharon Dshaak, LPN from Wolf Point, served on the Board from 1999 to 2003. Ms. Dschaak served on the Board's Education, Practice and Credentials, and Adjudication Committees as well as several interim subcommittees over the past four years.

Connie Schultz, RN from Glasgow, served on the Board this year, completing the term vacated by Jack Burke. Ms. Schultz served on the Screening Panel, as well as the Practice and Credentials Committee, the Nurse Apprentice Committee and the Medication Aide Committee.

The Board thanks all of these nurses for their service to the citizens of Montana, and for their contributions to nursing practice. Best wishes to them as they continue to work and practice among us.

### **Board of Nursing seeking Executive Director**

**The Department of Labor and Industry is recruiting an Executive Director for the Board of Nursing. This permanent, full time position requires frequent travel throughout the state and occasional out of state meetings. The candidate must have:**

- **A Masters Degree in Nursing**
- **Clinical experience and experience in nursing education**
- **Knowledge of nursing concepts and theories**
- **Knowledge of national examination and licensure standards and general nursing practice**
- **Ability to function as a member of the team**
- **Ability to learn applicable statutes, rules, regulations and policies as they apply to the nursing profession and the Department of Labor and Industry.**

**If you are interested, please contact Polly Boyer at [pboyer@state.mt.us](mailto:pboyer@state.mt.us) or 406-444-7069**

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